

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

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TOSEC 22

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (ROGERS, WILLIAM P.)

SUBJECT: RADIO/ TV HIGHLIGHTS

1. RADIO- TV NEWS PROGRAMS OVER WEEKEND MAY 12-13 CONTINUED TO CONCENTRATE ON WATERGATE (FOR EXAMPLE, CBS ONE HOUR SPECIAL SUNDAY NIGHT) AND OTHER DOMESTIC STORIES WITH SCANT ATTENTION GIVEN TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THERE WAS ROUTINE COVERAGE OF LEBANON SITUATION, ALLEGATIONS OF U. S. BOMBING IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND DAVID BRUCE IN HONG KONG.

2. SECRETARY ROGERS' DEPARTURE WAS NOTED ON REGULAR TV NEWS PROGRAMS OVER WEEKEND WITH BRIEF SHOTS OF SECRETARY'S EMBARKATION AT ANDREWS SATURDAY. CBS MID- DAY AND EVENING TV NEWS PROGRAMS STRESSED SIGNIFICANCE SECRETARY'S VISIT GIVEN BASIC IMPORTANCE U. S. RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES THIS HEMISPHERE.

3. WTOP AT NOON MONDAY FEATURED FOLLOWING STORY ON SALINITY QUESTION WITH EXCERPTS FROM SECRETARY'S REMARKS IN MEXICO CITY:

THE COLORADO RIVER PROVIDES MEXICO WITH WATER TO
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IRRIGATE FARM LAND, BUT APPARENTLY IT HAS RECENTLY FLOWED WITH A SIGNIFICANT SALT CONTENT -- SIGNIFICANT ENOUGH THAT THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT CONFRONTED SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM ROGERS WITH IT DURING HIS EIGHT NATION TOUR OF LATIN AMERICA.

SECRETARY ROGERS: THE SALINITY OF THE WATER MADE AVAILABLE TO MEXICO AT THEIR BOUNDARY HAS ALREADY BEEN REDUCED BY THE AVERAGE OF MORE THAN 100 PARTS PER MILLION CALLED FOR IN A COMMUNIQUE. MR. BROWNELL MADE AN ON THE SPOT INVESTIGATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY SUBMITTED CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT ON DECEMBER 29 TH. THAT CAREFUL STUDY WAS REPORTED WITHIN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT; PRESIDENT NIXON APPROVED THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS EARLIER THIS WEEK. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS PROPOSAL WHICH I PRESENTED TO YOUR PRESIDENT TODAY WITH THE ACCOMPANYING LATEST UNDERSTANDING COULD CONSTITUTE THE BASIS FOR AN AGREEMENT PROVIDING A PERMANENT, DEFINITIVE AND JUST SOLUTION TO THE COLORADO RIVER SALINITY PROBLEM.

3. FOLLOWING STORY WAS CARRIED BY WTOP RADIO MONDAY MORNING: " SECRETARY OF STATE ROGERS FLIES TO MANAGUA TODAY TO INSPECT THE REBUILDING OF THE NICARAGUAN CAPITAL WHICH WAS LEVELED BY AN EARTHQUAKE IN DECEMBER. NICARAGUA IS THE SECOND OF EIGHT COUNTRIES ROGERS IS VISITING ON HIS 17 DAY TOUR OF LATIN AMERICA. THE TOUR IS AIMED AT LAYING THE GROUND WORK FOR A SIMILAR TRIP BY PRESIDENT NIXON SCHEDULED FOR LATER THIS YEAR. ROGERS CONFERRED WITH MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA YESTERDAY AND FLIES ON TO VENEZUELA TONIGHT. DURING HIS FIVE HOUR STAY IN MANAGUA THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL INAUGURATE NEW U. S. EMBASSY OFFICES IN PLACE OF THE ONES DESTROYED IN THE EARTHQUAKE. ROGERS WILL ALSO LAY THE CORNER- STONE FOR A HOSPITAL BUILT WITH U. S. AID."

4. SATURDAY MORNING FIRST LINE REPORT BY MARVIN KALB CONCLUDED WITH MENTION OF RUMORS THAT SECRETARY ROGERS WOULD GO TO WHITE HOUSE AS SPECIAL AIDE TO PRESIDENT NIXON WITH HENRY KISSINGER BECOMING SECRETARY OF STATE.

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5. FOLLOWING IS CBS RADIO STORY FROM HONG KONG MONDAY MAY 14 ON BRUCE ARRIVAL: " DAVID K. E. BRUCE, TALL, WHITE HAIRED, A TRADITIONAL GRAY SUIT, IS WALKING ONTO THE BRIDGE THAT CROSSES THE TINY INSIGNIFICANT BRIDGE THAT CROSSES THE TINY INSIGNIFICANT RIVER THAT SEPARATES THE HONG KONG COLONY FROM THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA- HE

IS WITH HIS WIFE AND A COUPLE OF AIDES. HE IS WALKING SLOWLY CARRYING A BRIEF- CASE AND STEPPING UP TO THE BORDER WHERE HE IS GREETED BY A BORDER GUARD IN A GREEN UNIFORM, HIGH COLLAR WITH RED INSIGNIA ON A RED STAR AND GREEN CAP. THE AMBASSADOR HANDS HIM HIS PASSPORT, THE MAN

IS SMILING, GESTURING MR. BRUCE, MRS. BRUCE AND THE GROUP TO GO ON THROUGH. HE IS NOW A FEW YARDS INSIDE CHINA SHAKING HANDS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT WHO HAVE COME DOWN FROM PEKING. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN A GENERATION THE UNITED STATES HAS A HIGH RANKING DIPLOMATIC OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF A PERMANENT MISSION IN THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA. RUSH

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